

Kentucky Environmental Education Council

Spring Meeting July 26, 2006
Shaker Village of Pleasant Hill
Harrodsburg, KY

Minutes of the Meeting

Members Present: Horace Brown, Frances Carter, Greg Higdon, Yvonne Meichtry

Members not present: Robin Chandler, Wade Helm, Jeff Hohman, Kurt Mason, Evelyn Morgan

Staff: Jane Eller, John LeFevre

Mr. Brown, the Council chair, opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. Since there was no quorum, no vote was taken with regard to the Spring Council meeting minutes.

Year in Review – Ms. Eller presented members with a PowerPoint presentation reviewing Council activities for the previous year. (Attached)

PRIDE Fund (from HB 174) – Ms. Eller met with Secretary Fox and came to an agreement on how to spend this years PRIDE fund monies. Of the eight state universities that receive funds from the PRIDE fund, four will receive funding to complete the creation of an endorsement in environmental education. For those universities that already have an endorsement in place the funding will be used for job imbedded professional development. The Council agreed that no university will receive money unless they are committed to completing the endorsement. Mr. Higdon suggested that if a university goes unfunded for not agreeing to move forward with an endorsement, then Ms. Eller should notify Secretary Fox where that universities funding will be placed.

KUPEE – Ms. Eller formally requested that Council members should help to define what the Council relationship is with KUPEE. Mr. Higdon suggested that we invite the KUPEE members to the next Council meeting so we can all get on the same page with respect to our goals for moving EE forward.

CWEP – The Council has received a \$189,000 grant from 319 funds to run an intensive media campaign using the CWEP materials in the Upper Cumberland basin. Ms. Eller informed members that the Council will partner with Eastern Kentucky University College of Communications and Eastern Kentucky PRIDE to implement this grant.

Certification – The Metropolitan Sewer District in Louisville has given the Council a \$50,000 grant to support the Kentucky Environmental Education Certification Program over the next three years. Council member Kurt Mason was instrumental in obtaining this grant. .

Green & Healthy Schools – Ms. Eller informed Council members that the Green & Healthy Schools program will be piloted this year and will begin in September with approximately 6 schools.

Project WET – Mr. LeFevre informed Council members that he plans to promote more support for the program by creating and using a list serve that is made up of all WET facilitators to help form a better state network.

501 C3 Research (Dr. Jack Morgan) – At the request of the Council, Ms. Eller met with Dr. Jack Morgan who established the Centers for Economic Education. Dr. Morgan was gracious enough to spend an entire morning discussing the history of the Centers for Economic Education in Kentucky. The centers were established in the early 1970s using a grant and support from the National Center for Economic Education. Since then, according to Dr. Morgan, the centers have been funded from a series of sources, mainly banks and other financial institutions, which he has solicited. Dr. Morgan estimates that he spends approximately 25% of his time raising money for the centers, each of which receives an average of about \$20,000 per year.

Council Reappointments – Current Council members that would like to be reappointed are Horace Brown, Frances Carter, Greg Higdon, Yvonne Meichtry, and Evelyn Morgan. Ms. Eller is considering asking the following people to serve on the Council in the future; Mark Kopp (Education), Tom Fitzgerald (Environment), Cheryl Messenger (Government). She is still looking for another business nominee.

Member Survey – Ms. Eller asked members to review the Council's performance using a survey provided. The Council response to each question is listed below.
(Survey Attached)

1. The Council's biggest accomplishment for this year is the creation of the Green & Healthy Schools program.
2. Use the Council more to help resolve issues in critical areas, such as budget.
3. The Council is satisfied with how the staff allots their time.
4. The Council should spend the majority of its time fulfilling legislative mandates, including the master plan, and explore expanding money for KUPPEE.
5. The Council is satisfied with the amount of projects and activities that the staff is undertaking.
6. KUPPEE members will be invited to the next Council meeting so we can all get on the same page with respect to our goals for moving EE forward.
7. The Council's only change in role is listed in response number two.
8. The Council does meet with the appropriate frequency and the times and places of meetings are appropriate.

Executive Director Salary Increase - Ms. Eller informed Council members that her salary of \$64,000 is, on average, \$20,000 less than other directors of small state agencies and asked Council members to consider a raise to \$70,000. In addition, Ms. Eller expressed that a raise would help to increase her retirement. Mr. Higdon suggested that

the Council consider increasing Ms. Eller's salary to \$72,000. Since there was no quorum, the matter could not be addressed. The Council agreed to take this up in a conference call to be set up by staff.

Mr. Brown asked if there was other old or new business. There being none, the meeting was adjourned.